

### **Legal forms of identification in Louisiana**

Title 26:90 Acts prohibited on licensed premises

No person holding a retail dealer's permit and no agent, associate, employee, representative, or servant of any such person shall do or permit any of the following acts to be done on or about the licensed premises:

- (1) A. Sell or serve alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one years, unless such person submits any one of the following:

-A valid, current Louisiana driver's license which contains a photograph of the person presenting the driver's license.

-A valid, current, driver's license of another state which contains a photograph of the person and birth date of the person submitting the driver's license.

A valid, current, special identification card issued by the state of Louisiana pursuant to R.S. 40:1321 containing a photograph of the person submitting the identification card.

A valid, current, passport or visa issued by the federal government or another country or nation, that contains a permanently attached photograph of the person and the date of birth of the person submitting the passport or visa.

A valid, current, military or federal identification card issued by the federal government containing a photograph of the person and date of birth of the person submitting the identification card.

B. Each form of identification listed above must on its face establish the age of the person as twenty-one years or older, and there must be no reason to doubt the authenticity or correctness of the identification. No form of identification mentioned above shall be accepted as proof of age if it is expired, defaced, mutilated, or altered. If the driver's license, state identification card, or lawful identification submitted is a duplicate, the person shall submit additional identification which contains the name, date of birth, and photograph of the person. In addition, an educational institution identification card, check cashing identification card, or employee identification card shall not be considered as lawful identification for the purposes of this Paragraph.

### **Detecting false identification**

It's not always easy to tell if someone is legally old enough to purchase alcoholic beverages. That's why it is important to always ask for an I.D. and check it carefully.

#### **WHAT TO LOOK FOR:**

- The card's expiration date. Do not accept the license if the date is expired.
- The word "duplicate" on the front of the card. Someone else may have the original card.
- Glue lines or bumpy surfaces by the picture or birth date. Uneven surfaces often indicate tampering.
- Consistency of numbers. The typeset for the birth date should match the lettering used on the rest of the license. Also look for tiny pieces of paper with modified dates placed over the original numbers.
- The state logo. A state seal or logo that is partially missing or appears altered is another clue to a fake card.
- Pin holes on the surface. Bleach may have been inserted to "white out" certain aspects of a date.
- The card's reverse-side lettering. While the front may appear flawless, often counterfeiters merely photocopy the reverse side. Look for blurred lettering and read the back looking for notices such as "not a government document" and "novelty item".
- Size, color, lettering, thickness and corners. Compare the questionable I.D. against a "standard" – your own valid driver's license.
- Someone else's card. Make sure the photo, height and weight on the card match the person in front of you.
- If it is an out-of-state license, or for any reason looks unfamiliar to you, use an I.D. checking guide.

#### **WHAT TO ASK IF YOU SPOT ANY ONE OF THESE PROBLEMS:**

- Ask for a second piece of I.D. People with fake I.D.'s rarely carry back-up identification.
- Quiz the card-holder about basic information on the card, such as birth date, middle initial, zip code, etc.